

# CITY OF SUNNYVALE REPORT Administrative Hearing

March 2, 2005

SUBJECT: 2005-0058 - Mike Ma [Applicant] Lin Yingchih and Lo

**Chih Yang** [Owner]: Application for a. The property is located at **175 East Olive Avenue** in a DSP-10 (Downtown

Specific Plan/Block 10) Zoning District.

Motion Special Development Permit on a 6,608 square-foot site to

allow modifications to the second story and the addition of a

carport.

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

Existing Site

Fourplex

Conditions

## **Surrounding Land Uses**

North Office

South Single Family Home and Office

East Office

West Single Family Home and Condominiums

**Issues** Adequate Parking

Impervious Surface

**Environmental** 

Status

A Class 1 Categorical Exemption relieves this project

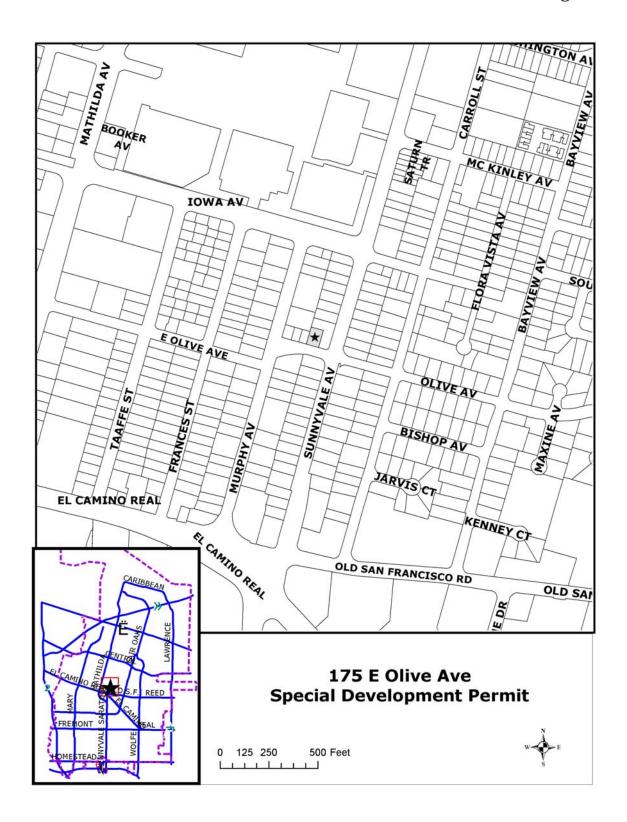
from California Environmental Quality Act provisions

and City Guidelines.

Staff

Approve with Conditions

Recommendation



# PROJECT DATA TABLE

	EXISTING	PROPOSED	REQUIRED/ PERMITTED	
General Plan	Downtown Specific Plan	Same	Downtown Specific Plan	
Zoning District	DSP-10	Same	DSP-10	
Lot Size (s.f.)	6,608	Same	No min.	
Gross Floor Area (s.f.)	2,770	Same	No max.	
Lot Coverage (%)	31.5	Same	60 max.	
No. of Units	4	2	2 max.	
Bedrooms/Unit	3 2-bdrm units	1 2-bdrm unit		
	1 1-bdrm unit	1 3-bdrm unit		
No. of Buildings On- Site	2	4 (with carports)		
Distance Between Buildings			min.	
Building Height (ft.)	19.3	21.3	30 max.	
No. of Stories	2	Same	2 max.	
Setbacks (Facing Property)				
• Front	24'5"	Same	min.	
Left Side	1'6"	Same	min.	
Right Side	4'	7'7"	min.	
• Rear	2'5"	Same	min.	
Landscaping (sq. ft.)				
Total Landscaping	Approx 1,000	Approx 1,800	1,321 min.	
Parking				
Total Spaces	3	4	4 min.	
Covered Spaces	1	2	2 min.	
Stormwater				
• Impervious Surface Area (s.f.)	5,608 (83%)	4,808 (72%)	No req.	

#### ANALYSIS

## **Description of Proposed Project**

The proposed project includes modifying the second story by raising the roof and adding covered parking spaces in addition to other minor site improvements. This work requires a Special Development Permit as it involves modifications to existing structures.

In November 2004, the Neighborhood Preservation Division received a complaint that a duplex property had been illegally converted into a fourplex. After Neighborhood Preservation contacted the property owner, this application was submitted to correct the unpermitted conversions that had taken place and make improvements to bring it up to current Building code and Planning standards.

# **Background**

**Previous Actions on the Site**: There are no significant previous planning applications for the subject site.

### **Environmental Review**

A Class 1 Categorical Exemption relieves this project from California Environmental Quality Act provisions and City Guidelines. Class 1 Categorical Exemption includes minor additions to existing facilities.

#### **Special Development Permit**

**Site Layout:** The property has one main structure with a detached structure in the rear. The detached building will be converted from the existing unpermitted unit into a storage structure. The main house will be converted back into a legal duplex for a total of two units.

Two one-car carports are proposed on either side of the main house. These carports have angled composition shingle roofs with wooden posts painted to match the existing house. Each carport has one driveway leading to it. Staff recommends Condition of Approval #2A that the right-hand driveway be rebuilt to meet current City standards.

Stormwater Management: The existing site is substantially paved. As part of this submittal, the applicant is proposing to remove most of the paving in the rear yard to increase pervious surfaces.

**Architecture:** The existing architecture of the house is not changing. The roof is being raised approximately two feet in order to meet building code requirements for minimum ceiling height in the second story. The Building Division requires that the detached structure in the rear have firewalls added to the left and rear walls to meet current building code (Condition #2C).

**Landscaping:** The landscaping on-site is constrained. There are several small planters in the front and a narrow band of landscaping around the perimeter of the site with the rest of the site paved. The applicant is removing pavement in the rear and adding landscaping in order to bring the site up to the requirement of 20% (Condition #2D).

The site currently has 2 protected heritage trees. Protected trees are those that measure 38 inches or greater in circumference when measured at four feet from the ground. The plans for this project include preserving both of the protected trees.

**Parking/Circulation:** The Downtown Specific Plan has a modified parking requirement for single family and duplex homes. It requires one covered and one uncovered space per unit (as opposed to the two covered and two uncovered required in the rest of the City). This application meets those requirements and will also upgrade the driveway approach to meet current City standards.

**Compliance with Development Standards/Guidelines:** The project brings the property more into conformance with current development standards and building code. The addition of covered parking is a benefit to the site as is reducing the amount of paved area and increasing landscaping.

Downtown Specific Plan: This project is in compliance with the Downtown Specific Plan in terms of use, density, and other development standards.

**Expected Impact on the Surroundings:** This application would not have impacts on the surrounding properties. The increase in height to the main house is minor and will not create a significant visual or privacy impact on the street or adjoining properties.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

No fiscal impacts other than normal fees and taxes are expected.

#### **Public Contact**

Staff received one phone call from the adjoining neighbor stating support of the project.

Notice of Public Hearing	Staff Report	Agenda
• Published in the Sun	• Posted on the City	• Posted on the
newspaper	of Sunnyvale's	City's official notice
• Posted on the site	Website	bulletin board
• 20 notices mailed to	<ul> <li>Provided at the</li> </ul>	• City of Sunnyvale's
adjacent property owners	Reference Section	Website
and residents of the	of the City of	Recorded for
project site	Sunnyvale's Public	SunDial
	Library	

#### Conclusion

**Findings and General Plan Goals:** Staff was able to make the required Findings based on the justifications for the Special Development Permit. Findings and General Plan Goals are located in Attachment A.

Conditions of Approval: Conditions of Approval are located in Attachment B.

## **Alternatives**

- 1. Approve the Special Development Permit with attached conditions.
- 2. Approve the Special Development Permit with modified conditions.
- 3. Deny the Special Development Permit.

# Recommendation

Alternative 1.
Prepared by:

Diana O'Dell
Project Planner

Reviewed by:

Steve Lynch
Associate Planner

Attachments:

- A. Recommended Findings
- B. Recommended Conditions of Approval
- C. Site and Architectural Plans

## **Recommended Findings - Special Development Permit**

Goals and Policies that relate to this project are:

- **Land Use and Transportation Element Policy N1.4** *Preserve and enhance the high quality character of residential neighborhoods.*
- **Land Use and Transportation Element Action Statement N1.1.5** Establish and monitor standards for community appearance and property maintenance.
- 1. The proposed use attains the objectives and purposes of the General Plan of the City of Sunnyvale as the project adds covered parking, brings the site into conformance with density restrictions and adds landscaping.
- 2. The proposed use ensures that the general appearance of proposed structures, or the uses to be made of the property to which the application refers, will not impair either the orderly development of, or the existing uses being made of, adjacent properties as the project will not have a negative visual impact on the street or adjacent residents' privacy.

# **Recommended Conditions of Approval - Special Development Permit**

In addition to complying with all applicable City, County, State and Federal Statutes, Codes, Ordinances, Resolutions and Regulations, Permittee expressly accepts and agrees to comply with the following conditions of approval of this Permit:

Unless otherwise noted, all conditions shall be subject to the review of approval of the Director of Community Development.

#### 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A. Project shall be in conformance with the plans approved at the public hearing(s). Minor changes may be approved by the Director of Community Development; major changes may be approved at a public hearing.
- B. The Conditions of Approval shall be reproduced on a page of the plans submitted for a Building permit for this project.
- C. The Special Development Permit shall be null and void two years from the date of approval by the final review authority at a public hearing if the approval is not exercised, unless a written request for an extension is received prior to expiration date.

## 2. COMPLY WITH OR OBTAIN OTHER PERMITS

- A. Obtain an encroachment permit from the Department of Public Works for upgrading the current easterly driveway approach concurrently with issuance of the building permit.
- B. File a lot line adjustment with the Department of Public Works to remove the lot line splitting the lot into northerly and southerly sections prior to issuance of the building permit.
- C. Obtain Building Permits to upgrade the second story, add carports, and add firewalls to the existing detached structure within four months of the date of the final approval.
- D. Proposed landscaping and removal of paved areas shall be shown on the building permit plans.

